

The LAST

SPEECHES CONFessions

OF

Captain Thomas Walker, John Kory, and
William Batten, for their

EXECUTION
At the Common Place
On Friday the 20th of July, 1683,

for Conspiring the Death of
His Most Sacred Majesty,

High Treason,
for Conspiring the Death of
James Duke of York,

And his Royal Brother

For High Treason, for Conspiring the Death of
James Duke of York,
for Conspiring the Death of
James Duke of York,

THE many and continual Judgements which are inflicted upon reprobate Offenders, but especially such as study & practise the shedding of innocent Blood, methinks might be sufficient to deter and hinder others from their wicked practices; but such is the stubbornness of this Age, that they are rather hardened than mollified by the threatening dangers of this professed Devil. How many Horrid and Damnable Plots have been Conspired against His most Gracious Majesty; which by the mercy and Providence of the Almighty have all proved ineffectual, and proclaimed the impudence of the Authors to be unparalleled; so that when his

so far matched by the horrid Conspiracy, as they despatched the goodness of God Almighty above, when they thought themselves as good as certain of their carrying on their design anwerable to their own minds, and bloody dispositions, that when their intentions were laid open to the King's Ministers, and their own lists brought into a view, you may see in them the following Lines.

At the Sessions of Oyer and Terminer, that began at the Old Bailey, on the 11th of July, 1688, when the ~~old~~ ^{new} Site, Captain Thomas ~~Walde~~ ^{Walde} appeared at the Bar, his Indictment being read, he pleaded not guilty; but Col. ~~Attorn~~ ^{Attorn} y testified upon Oath that there had been divers Consultations about killing the King as He was to return from Newmarket, and that it was designed to be done near the dwelling Place of one ~~John~~ ^{John} Maitland, Master of the Household in Her Majestie's Service, but that ~~John~~ ^{John} was in nomination to be the person that should perpetrate this Villany, but he refused to be that, and so ~~John~~ ^{John} master ~~John~~ ^{John} Disregard which was attending His Majesty, that they being cut off, they might the more easily ~~have~~ ^{have} in their possession.

Colonel ~~Rams~~ ^{Rams} declared that there was several Consultations held about this Diabolical contrivance, which the Lord Chief Justice ~~Pemberton~~ ^{Pemberton} enquired into, and found to be at several places, namely at the ~~old~~ ^{old} ~~new~~ ^{new} Chamber, and the Tavern within Aldgate, and about ~~one~~ ^{one} mile ~~east~~ ^{east} of the former, to which ~~John~~ ^{John} pleaded, that at that time these Consultations were held, he was Lame of the knee, and unable to fulfil the same ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~other~~ ^{other} ~~men~~ ^{men}, but whether it was just at that time or not he could not positively swear.

Then Captain ~~Walde~~ ^{Walde} reply'd that it was very hard that four men should conspire against his life, and impeaching him gave their oaths.

But Mr. Attorney General opened the Case, laying open the danger of concealing Treason, to which he answered that he was merely drawn in to the concern, and also that he thought concealing of Treason was but misprision of Treason, but my Lord answered that to be in Consultation and not to discover was real Treason.

So the Jury having taken notice of what he Confessed, immediately brought in their Verdict, that he was Guilty of High Treason.

Mr. ~~Walde~~ ^{Walde} having been Examined on ~~Wednesday~~ ^{Wednesday} was again brought to the Bar on Friday morning, and when he had the Plea he made yesterday might be allowed, which was, that he was Guilty of a Conspiracy, but not concern'd in raising of Arms to cause a Rebellion, but the Indictment imputed, that mallice Traitor he had Conspired to Arriue the King of His Country and Liberty, and particularly at London on the second of August, in the Parish of St. Michael's, where John Wentworth, Hollies Xer, Francis and Richard Goodenough, and many other Tray-

But this GROUND being very flat, has very little water, and there are no trees, but only a few small shrubs.

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During the time of their Imprisonment they seemed very penitent, & the Proseup of their Captain in this regard, was very strong and other than their extremes. They also maintained their bad and offensive condition, which they had brought upon themselves by following such an ill and irrational procedure, in conspiring the Death of the Captain's Friends, 6000 times surpassing their Companions and Accomplish, As far as Justice formerly been concerned with. Only the Captain seemed the most obstinate, and least concerned.

But the CROWD being very great, we can give you but some short Account of what they spoke before their Execution.

373 VVhen the Executioner had done his work, the
v^esses of the multitude were filled with tears,
every one lamenting the sad conditions of these poor
and miserable wretches, who had engaged themselves in
this bloody enterprise; but too late they may la-
ment their sad delusions.

It is great pity that so many brave and worthy Gentlemen should engage themselves in such a horrid conspiracy that the world before never heard of, because this Plot was contrived by persons pretending to zeal and Religion, which is not, nor cannot be suitable to rules of Christianity, for we all know that shedding of blood is clearly contrary to the commands of the Almighty.

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THE
EXECUTION
AND
CONFES SION
WITH THE
Behaviour & Speeches
OF

Capt. Thomas Walcot, William Hone, and John Rouse, who according to the Sentence pronounced against them at the Old-Bayley, on the 12th Instant, were this 20th of July Drawn, Hanged and Quartered, for Traytorously Conspiring to Assassinate and Murther the King in his return from New-Market, and the Establish'd Government to Subvert, &c.

Entered according to ORDER.

A Hellish conspiracy of divers wicked and desperate persons against the Kings Life and Government having been sometime past discovered, upon the Issuing out of His Majesties Proclamation, amongst other Traytors and Conspirators these, on whom Justice has deservedly fixed Her severest mark, were apprehended, *viz.* *Thomas Walcot, William Hone and John Rouse, Men wholly bent to shed innocent Blood, and lay their Country waste, not in the least bogling to ingage themselves solemnly to Murther the King, his Royal Brother, and after that, all such as should oppose their Monstrous and Tyranical proceedings; but being*

being prevented by Providence, even to a miracle, all their pernicious devices vanished into Air, and themselves rendered dreadful Examples to posterity, and fully opened the eyes of such as would not be perswaded, but this sort of men were men of harmless principles, and that what had passed in the Days of *Ignoramus*, were but Shams to amuse the people. But to particulars:

The Prisoners aforesaid being in sundry places apprehended, order was given for their Tryals at the Sessions of *Quarter and Terminer*, holden at the *Sessions-House in the Old Baley, &c.* where *Walcot* being Arraigned, pleaded *Not Guilty* to his Indictment, in which were specified the Treasons of which he stood accused, as his designing the *Murther* of the King, and a miserable slaughter of his Subjects, to leavy War and Rebellion, &c. whereupon the Evidence being called, the principal of which were *Collonel Rumsey*, *Mr. West* and *Mr. Keeling*, who having declared the manner of the Conspiracy, and to what intent it was carried on, charged the Prisoner with being at divers Consults, where the death of the King and the Duke of *York* were resolved upon, and that upon their return from *New-market*; at what time *Walcot* was appointed with a Commanded Party to fall upon the Guards, whilst *Rumbold* the *Malster* was to Atlassinate his Majesty and Royal Highness, and others to Kill the Postillion, Coachman and Horses, and that they stiled him the *English Galin*, saying, he woud be such when at the head of an Army. And it was further witnessed against him, that he had provided himself Horse and Arms, and went to take a view of *Rumbold's House near Hadsdon*, and did approve of its commodiousness for the perpetration of the Villany, which was to have been done whilst an overthrown Cart had stopped His Majesties Coach; and that the Prisoner was tempted to undertake the actual *Assassination*, but he refused it, saying, he would not kill a naked man, but would undertake Fighting the Guards. These and other Treasonable Conspiracies being proved against him, and a Letter produced which he had sent to *Sir Leoline Jenkins*, therein promising to make a more perfect discovery of the Hellish design, both in *England* and *Ireland*, than what as he believed others were able to do, if he might thereby hope for any mercy at His Majesties hands; as likewise another Letter taken from him in Prison, drawn up in order to be sent to a Friend of his, to intreat Collonel *Rumsey* and *Mr. West* to be favourable to him in their Evidence, he was found *Guilty*; and two days after, viz. on *Saturday* last received Sentence to be Drawn, Hanged and Quartered: At what time he only desired that his Friends might be permitted to visit him during his continuance in *Newgate*, which was allowed; and so, as a Man not seeming much concerned at what had befallen him, he was conveyed to the place from whence he came.

William Hone succeeding *Walcot* in taking his Tryal at the *Old-Baily* for conspiring the Death of the King, Leavvyng War, and procuring Arms, with many treasonable Expressions by him uttered, he at first denied the Indictment in general, and pleaded *Not Guilty*; but better considering with himself, he desired to retract that Plea, and plead *Guilty* as to the Conspiracy against the Kings Life, but would not confess his procuring Arms; yet upon his Tryal it was plainly proved that a Horse and Arms were provided, and that he was to be one in the Assassination, that he had been at several traiterous consults,

and malitiously spoken divers Treasonable words, most of which he owned in Court, seeming greatly troubled that he had consented to so great a Wickedness, declaring to God and the World, that *Richard Goodenough* had seduced him, and persuaded him to enter into the Hellish Conspiracy, as also some others of the Conspirators, by insinuating the pretended grievances of the Nation, and laying before him the advantage that would accrue thereby.

John Rouse this time failing of an *Ignoramus Jury*, having been upon his Tryal at the *Old Baley* found Guilty of divers Conspiracies, and Trayterous Contrivances against the Life of His Majesty, contrived and committed, according as it was given in Evidence against him, both before and since his being a Prisoner in the *Tower*, was Sentenced for High-Treason, together with *Walcot* and *Hone*; the Sentence being, That they, and either of them should return to the place from whence they came, and from thence be drawn upon Hurdles, or Sledges, to the place of Execution, and there be Hanged up by the Necks, then cut down alive, their Bowels taken out, and Privities cut off to be burnt before their Faces, their Heads cut off, and Quarters divided, &c. Upon which, *Rouse* made a long Preamble about his being Innocent, as to many particulars, yet declared he was willing to submit to the Law, &c.

The Tryals over, and Sentence as is specified, they were carryed to *Newgate*, where, for the most part, they were kept assunder, yet had divers of their Friends came to visit them, and many godly Ministers to give them advice for their Souls health, laying before them the heinousness of the Crime; and the rather, becaausce they had sinned against such goodness, and aggravated the Crime in Conspiring against the Life of a Prince, under whom they did and might have Lived happily; but seeing Divine Justice had overtaken them, andno hopes of continuing long in this World, that they would bethink themselves, and spend the few moments that were left them to the advantage of their Immortal Souls, and not through neglect render themselves doubly wretched: To this and such like Ghosly advice they were observed to be very attentive, especially *Hone*, who expressed abundance of sorrow for the greatness of his offence, saying, that by reason of his former Sins, and his refusing to be reclaimed, God had suffered him to fall into this great Temptation, desiring, the Prayers of all good men, saying that if he might Live, all the busines of his Life would prove insufficient to expiate so great a Crime.

Walcot and *Rouse* appeared more retired and reserved, the former seeming for the most part willfully obstinate or moros; yet in his countenance appeared a remorse and regret for what he had Acted, seeming rather to confess then deny the horrid design, &c.

Rouse was observed for the most part to be greatly dejected, often Lamenting his wretched state; and thus continued these Miscreants, whom Malice, hope of Gain or Performance has brought to ruin and a Wainful though deserved end, on this 20th. of *July*, on which day they were drawn upon Sledges to the place of Execution, where after they had expressed a sorrow for the heinous Conspiracy, and treasonable Crimes intended against the Life of the best of Kings, &c. and said some short Prayers, they suffered according to the Sentence aforesaid.

The

The Executioner Imboweling and Quartering them, the Quarters we are informed are by His Majesties Bounty restored to their Relations: And thus fell those miserable men the sad Example of offended Justice, having brought themselves to shameful ends, by designing the blackest of Crimes; but 'tis often apparent, that those who act against the Lives of Sacred Kings, frequently fall into the Snare themselves have laid, as it was observed by the inhumane Monsters that Trayterously, barbarously and Villainously Murthered His Majesties Father of Blessed memory, and indeed in all Ages wherein such wicked designs have taken Birth: For God has declared, *He that spils Mans Blood, by Man shall his Blood be spilt.* And certainly to contrive and design it by Hellish and Diabolick Conspiracies, is no less heinous in the sight of the Just Creator: Therefore I hope this timely and most Miraculous discovery, together with the punishment inflicted upon the Traitors will prove a sufficient warning to deter others from the like inhumane undertaking.

FINIS.

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